

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 6, 8, 11-13, 15, and 17 are pending. No new matter has been added.

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okada (US Pib. No. 2002/0023195) in view of Kleiman (U.S. Patent No. 6,961,749).

Claims 8 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okada in view of Kleiman as applied to claim 6 above, and further in view of Aruga (U.S. Patent No. 6,542,954).

Claims 11, 12, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okada in view of Kleiman as applied to claim 6 above, and further in view of Kern.


Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okada in view of Kleiman and further in view of Kern as applied to claims 11, 12, and 15 above, and further in view of Chilton (U.S. Patent No. 6,732,117).

The undersigned would like to thank the examiner for granting an after-final interview conducted on May 18, 2006. A clarifying amendment to the claims was identified that appears to distinguish over the cited art. Independent claim 6 has been amended accordingly.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-324-6352 (direct).

Respectfully submitted,


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